

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR COMMUNICATING INFORMATION TO PORTABLE COMPUTING DEVICES

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

5 The present application is being filed concurrently with "System and Method for
Communicating Information from a Computerized Distributor to Portable Computing
Devices," U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09842198 (~~serial number not yet assigned~~),
filed on April 24, 2001, and bearing Attorney Docket No. IBOB-001/00US, and "System
10 and Method for Dynamically Generating Content on a Portable Computing Device," U.S.
Patent Application Serial No. 09841970 (~~serial number not yet assigned~~), filed on April 24,
2001, and bearing Attorney Docket No. IBOB-001/01US.

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FIELD OF INVENTION

15 Embodiments of the invention relate to systems and methods configured to
distribute information across networks to remote computing devices. Specifically,
embodiments of the invention provide a wireless information distributor, a local data
cache, a protocol for broadcasting information to portable computing devices, a
procedure for providing wireless information distributors with new information, methods
for battery conservation on information distributors, and systems and methods for
increasing the wireless communication range of conventional portable computing devices
20 without requiring physical device modifications.